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Paper 16.

Attorney Docket No.: 0694-134

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Hashibe, et al.  
U.S. Application No. : 09/677,502  
Filing Date : October 2, 2000  
Title : Fire Protection Glass Panel with a Heat  
Shielding Characteristic  
Examiner : R. Sergeant  
Group Art Unit : 1711

Pre  
#17/Response  
2/14/03  
[Signature]

January 29, 2003  
New York, New York

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

On January 3, 2003, Applicant filed a Request for Continued Prosecution Application (RCE) for the above-identified application (return postcard date-stamped January 8, 2003 by USPTO). Applicant requests entry and consideration of the present Preliminary Amendment before examination of the above-identified application pursuant to the RCE.